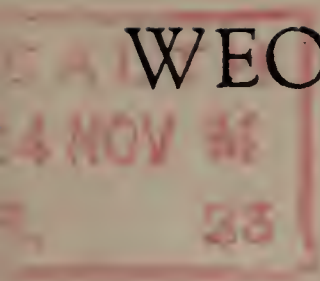


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WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT

HEREFORDSHIRE

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JOINT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Public Health Inspector

for the year

1960



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December, 1960)

Sir D. T. L. BAILEY, Bart.	Brinsop and Wormesley
E. CLARK	...	...	Weobley
Sir R. C. G. COTTERELL, Bart.	...	...	Mansel Gamage
Major J. L. DAVENPORT	...	...	Yazor
K. F. DAVISON	...	...	Staunton-on-Wye
A. E. DAVIES	...	...	Eardisland and Stretford
C. G. DAVIES	...	...	Canon Pyon
J. B. FOWLER	...	...	Canon Pyon
E. F. HARRIS	...	...	Birley
H. G. J. HAVARD	...	...	Dilwyn
J. L. HUGHES	...	...	Norton Canon
J. O. JENKINS (Chairman of the Council)			Dilwyn
W. G. JENKINS (Vice-Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Rating Committee)			Almeley
H. D. JOHNSON	...	...	Bishopstone
A. I. LEWIS	...	...	Brobury and Monnington-on-Wye
R. A. MARSHALL	...	...	Kinnersley and Sarnesfield
H. T. PATRICK	...	...	Dilwyn
T. PAYNE	...	...	Moccas
Brigadier S. T. POLLEY	...	...	Mansel Lacy
A. E. PRICE	...	...	Letton
A. L. SMITH	...	...	Blakemere
L. E. THOMAS	...	...	Eardisland and Stretford
W. A. R. VALE (Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee)	...	...	Weobley
Major W. R. D. VERDIN (Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee)	...		King's Pyon
W. J. WHITING (Chairman of the Water and Sewerage Committee)	...	...	Preston-on-Wye
R. WRIGHT	...	...	Bridge Sollars and Byford

Clerk of the Council—R. C. HUTCHISON, A.C.C.S.

G. D. K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Westfield Walk,

Leominster

(Telephone: Leominster 2049).

LEONARD MORLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.A.R.D.S.,

Cert. Meat and Other Foods,

Public Health Inspector, Building Surveyor and Water Engineer,*

Council Offices, Whitehill House,

Weobley

(Telephone: Weobley 216).

*Water Engineer's duties transferred to the Herefordshire Water Board on
1st April, 1960.

M. A. CLEEVELY, C.R.S.H.,

Additional Public Health Inspector

(Part-time appointment with Kington U.D.C. and New Radnor R.D.C.)

(Appointment terminated 31st January, 1960).

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health: C. A. PREECE.

Clerk to the Public Health Inspector: MRS. H. MILLICHAP.

To the Chairman and Members of the Weobley Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for 1960, together with the report of the Public Health Inspector.

STATISTICAL SECTION

The Birth Rate in 1960 showed a marked drop from previous years, probably due to the beginning of the run-down of Foxley Camp. The Death Rate remained fairly low, as in previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

An outbreak of dysentery occurred in Eardisland in the Spring, part of the generalized outbreak in North-West Herefordshire. The disease proved particularly difficult to control in school children; and it was felt that this was partly due to the poor sanitary conditions at the school.

Representations by the Council to the Education Authority produced a promise of improvement by the installation of a water carriage system, but this promise was not fulfilled during the year and further representations have had to be made.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Mr. Morley has drawn attention to the difficulty experienced in finding places to tip refuse. This problem haunts most Councils, as tips are not popular as neighbourhood amenities, and we have been lucky to be able to find two new tipping sites during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

It is a pity that the Council did not feel able to continue routine inspection and control.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

The high proportion of unfit houses in Canon Pyon, Kings Pyon, Monnington and Staunton-on-Wye should be noted, as well as in Weobley itself. The Government emphasis on replacement of unfit houses continues and the Minister has stated that the "Credit Squeeze" must not apply in this field.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

The Minister accepted the Council's proposals for the improvement of slaughterhouses, and fixed the 1st January, 1962, as the day from which the slaughterhouses in the district must comply with the construction regulations.

In conclusion I would like to thank Mr. Morley for completing much of this report, and for his help and co-operation in the past year.

G. D. K. NEEDHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	49,727
Estimated mid-year home population	6,300
Average number of persons per acre ... ..	.13
Number of inhabited houses	1,753
Average number of inhabited houses per acre ... ..	.03
Average number of persons per house	3.6
Rateable Value	£33,979
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£133

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	46	54	100
Illegitimate	2	4	6
	—	—	—
	48	58	106
	—	—	—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:—

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D. (Crude)	16.8	18.6	19.8	23.3	21.6
Weobley R.D. (Adjusted)	17.6	19.5	20.8	24.5	22.9
England and Wales	17.1	16.5	16.4	16.1	15.7

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent. of total live births:

Weobley R.D.	5.7
England and Wales	5.4

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	1	2
	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D.	18.5	38.7	28.1	18.0	26.0
England and Wales	19.8	21.0	21.6	22.4	23.0

Total Live and Still Births

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	47	55	102
Illegitimate	...	2	4	6
		—	—	—
		49	59	108
		—	—	—

INFANT DEATH RATES

Early Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	—	2	2
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		—	2	2
		—	—	—

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Weobley R.D.	...	...	...	18.9
England and Wales		...	...	*

* Figure not yet available.

Neonatal Mortality

Death of Infants under 4 weeks old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	—	2	2
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		—	2	2
		—	—	—

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Weobley R.D.	...	...	...	18.9
England and Wales		...	...	15.6

Perinatal Mortality

Still Birhs and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	1	3	4
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		1	3	4
		—	—	—

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Weobley R.D.	...	...	37.0
England and Wales	...	...	32.9

Infant Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

(including those under 4 weeks)

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	1	2	3
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		1	2	3
		—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D.	{	Total ...	28.3	16.1	21.7	12.2	26.7
		Legitimate	30.0	16.9	15.7	6.5	28.0
		Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	90.9	100.0	Nil
England and Wales	{	Total ...	21.9	22.2	22.5	23.1	23.7
		Legitimate	*	21.9	22.3	22.8	23.5
		Illegitimate	*	27.4	27.8	30.0	28.7

* Figures not yet available.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths ... Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Weobley R.D.	...	...	Nil
England and Wales	...	...	0.39

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes	39	24	63

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D. (Crude) ...	10.0	10.7	9.3	11.9	11.7
Weobley R.D. (Adjusted) ...	9.6	10.3	8.9	11.4	11.1
England and Wales ...	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.7

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease ...	6	4	10

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D. ...	1.59	1.05	0.72	2.42	2.45
England and Wales ...	2.16	2.14	2.12	2.09	2.08

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease	18	15	33

Cardio Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D. ...	5.24	6.15	5.17	5.12	5.77
England and Wales ...	6.00	5.88	6.07	5.84	6.00

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis):

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease	8	1	9

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Weobley R.D. ...	1.43	1.20	1.00	0.85	1.44
England and Wales ...	1.26	1.53	1.37	1.38	1.35

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease					Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Leukaemia, aleuaemia	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	7	4	11
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	7	4	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Accidents, other than motor vehicle	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
TOTAL					39	24	63

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN THE WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1960

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	...	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	10	1	-	-	18
Measles	...	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Scarlet Fever	...	1	3	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	10
Erysipelas	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	12
Dysentery	...	-	-	11	10	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Food Poisoning	...	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Non-Pulmonary	...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1960

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	...	5	1	—	—	5	3	6	16	25	4	1	70
Measles	...	—	2	3	123	52	8	—	—	—	1	—	189
Scarlet Fever	...	6	2	3	4	2	—	—	1	1	1	3	23
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4
Acute Encephalitis:													
Infective	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Post-Infectious	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	3	1	4	5	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	18
Dysentery	...	—	—	18	14	24	29	30	6	2	—	—	123
Food Poisoning	...	1	—	4	2	9	8	—	—	2	6	—	39
Tuberculosis													
Pulmonary	...	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	7
Non-Pulmonary	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Comparative figures for previous years—Weobley Rural District.

Disease			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	...	...	18	13	11	13	41
Measles	...	...	6	85	143	107	118
Scarlet Fever	...	...	10	6	1	10	—
Erysipelas	...	...	1	—	—	1	2
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	12	8	5	16	13
Dysentery	...	...	43	—	—	10	4
Food Poisoning	...	...	3	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis:							
Pulmonary	...	...	3	4	2	5	2
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	1	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis:							
Paralytic	...	...	—	—	—	1	—

Comparative figures for previous years—North Herefordshire

Disease			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	...	...	70	38	39	192	87
Measles	...	...	189	388	258	144	561
Scarlet Fever	...	...	23	46	28	71	42
Erysipelas	...	...	4	4	2	7	8
Acute Encephalitis:							
Infective	...	...	3	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	18	33	14	49	20
Dysentery	...	...	123	3	16	38	7
Food Poisoning	...	...	39	3	5	10	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	2	3	2
Tuberculosis:							
Pulmonary	...	...	7	13	7	33	19
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	3	2	3	4	6
Acute Poliomyelitis:							
Paralytic	...	...	—	—	—	12	1
Non-Paralytic	...	...	—	—	—	14	—

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease				North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1.85	1.27
Measles	...	...	...	4.99	3.48
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0.61	0.70
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.11	0.06
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	...	...	...	0.08	0.0003
Post-Infectious	...	...	...	0.003	0.0002
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.47	0.32
Dysentery	...	...	...	3.24	0.94
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	1.03	0.17
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	...	...	...	0.18	0.46
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	0.08	0.06

TUBERCULOSIS.

				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1959	...	...	...	37	19	6	7
New cases notified	...	...	...	1	2	1	—
Moved into district	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
Moved out of district	...	...	...	8	4	—	1
Recovered	...	...	...	1	4	—	—
Died	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Died from other causes	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Number on Register at 31st December, 1960	...	...	...	30	12	6	6

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1956	3	79	1	3
1957	5	76	1	4
1958	2	71	1	2
1959	5	69	1	4
1960	4	54	1	5

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility, and the figures given below have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Numbers of children in the district who were immunised during the year:

Immunisation against	Age of child			Total	Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1	1-4	5-14		
Diphtheria	41	21	19	81	125
Whooping Cough ...	34	20	1	55	—
Diphtheria/Tetanus/ Whooping Cough ...	6	5	—	11	—

Numbers of children in the district who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year:

Vaccination against Smallpox	Age of child					Total	Revaccinations
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	15 & over		
	73	5	3	3	1	85	28

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE DISTRICT

The Rural District is situated in the North-Western portion of the County and covers an area of 49,727 acres. There are 26 parishes within the District, each with a village or hamlet forming a nucleus.

Agriculture is the major industry, the greater portion of the population being engaged either directly or indirectly with it.

Increased mechanisation of farming has, however, in recent years caused a reduction in agricultural employment with the result that an increasing number of persons are employed in other industries at either Hereford or Leominster, and travel to and fro daily.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Regional and Village Supplies

As from 1st April, The Council's water undertakings were transferred to the newly formed Herefordshire Water Board. To some of the Council's staff it was at least disappointing to find that the efforts of a number of years were taken over for future administration by another Authority, however, it is held that in the interests of efficiency such a step is necessary and time only will tell whether such a policy is the most economical.

At the time of preparation of this report, the Water Board had recommended an increase in its water charges.

It is not possible to include the total number of houses provided with public mains piped water at the end of the year, but the position at 31st March was as follows:—

WATER SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC MAINS DIRECT TO HOUSES

(Including Farm Houses)

Parish	No. of Houses	Approx. Population
Birley	4	12
Dilwyn	64	192
Eardisland	21	63
Kings Pyon	22	66
Mansel Lacy	27	81
Monnington-on-Wye	2	6
Norton Canon	26	78
Sarnesfield	1	3
Staunton-on-Wye	45	135
Stretford	1	3
Weobley	153	459
Yazor	12	36

WATER SUPPLIED FROM PRIVATE MAINS

Parish	No. of Houses	Approx. Population
Almeley	21	63
Bridge Sollars	2	6
Canon Pyon	2	6
Yazor	93	279

WATER SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS BY MEANS OF STANDPIPES

Parish	No. of Houses	Approx. Population
Weobley	9	27

The water supplied from these public and private mains is satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

The Examination and Sampling of Water Supplies

During the year 52 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

TABLE OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Total
Public Supplies (Chlorinated) ...	9	—	9
Council Houses: Eardisland ...	1	—	1
Other Supplies (Wells, springs and private supplies) ...	10	32	42
	20	32	52

Where samples proved to be unsatisfactory, occupiers were notified that water used for drinking purposes should be boiled before use.

No samples were submitted for chemical analysis during the year.

No serious complaints have been received concerning shortage of water supplies to dwelling houses and cases mentioned in previous reports were considered by the Council and schemes promoted prior to the Water Board 'take over' mentioned above.

At the close of the year, however, progress on the schemes referred to appeared to be exceedingly slow.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Weobley is the largest and only village in the area so far provided with public sewers and sewage disposal plant.

No further developments have arisen in regard to the proposed sewage disposal scheme for Dilwyn village, although the nuisance previously reported for the past eight years has not increased and some property owners have, in the meanwhile, had private schemes installed.

The nuisance in the village of Mansel Lacy has not increased and in this instance one or two individual private drainage schemes have been installed.

With regard to other villages or hamlets within the area, in most cases progress has been made with the installation of individual private drainage schemes and very few complaints concerning nuisances from drainage have been received....In some of these villages public water supplies have not yet been installed and in others comparatively slow progress has been made in having mains water connected to dwelling houses.

In the circumstances it would appear to be necessary for the Council to review the position from time to time.

From a long term point of view, owing to the dense nature of subsoil in the area generally, village disposal schemes with effluent discharging (after purification) into water courses are to be recommended.

Number of Houses connected to Public Sewers	...	156
Number of Houses connected to satisfactory private disposal works	... ..	397 (est.)
Number of Houses using chemical, pail or earth closets with satisfactory disposal	... ..	Not known
Number of Houses without satisfactory means of Sewage Disposal	... ..	Not known

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Collection service has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year, although the problem of finding suitable tipping sites is not yet solved.

The owner of the former tip at Stretford insisted on its closure and reinstatement during May, this left only one other tip of any consequence available for use, and at one time the possibility of closing down of the collection service was not ruled out, so difficult had the position concerning disposal become.

Fortunately, however, chiefly on account of the kind assistance afforded by Col. R. B. Verdin and Mr. W. Hall of Bidney, tipping facilities were made available in that area. It is wished to remind the Council that before long other disposal facilities will be required, particularly if a more frequent collection—which is considered necessary—is brought about.

Towards the end of the year the Health Committee were considering a report relating to the question of a more frequent collection service than the monthly collection made during 1960.

Throughout the year the refuse vehicle travelled over 6,100 miles on the various rounds. The estimated average mileage per gallon of fuel being 7.9.

DISINFECTIONS

Terminal disinfection is carried out as requisite. Formalin gas or Sulphur dioxide being employed when appropriate.

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

The Council dispensed with the services of the former Pests Inspector on 31st December, 1959 and since that time the routine survey of the area has been discontinued. The statutory obligations of local authorities under Section 2 of the Act were pointed out to the Committee at the appropriate time.

A contract was later negotiated with the former Pests Inspector for the periodic maintenance and treatment of local authority properties as respects rodent control and the following table describes the properties dealt with and visits made during the year in connection with Rodent Control.

RODENT CONTROL—SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND TREATMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1960

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	All other (includ. Business Premises)	Total
Total No. of properties in Local Authority's district	12	1,689	383	132	1,833
Number of properties in- spected by the Local Authority during 1960 as a result of notification ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of properties in- spected by the Local Authority during 1960 as a result of survey ...	12	—	—	—	12
Total number of visits made during 1960 ...	40	—	—	—	40
Number of Properties in- spected which were found to be seriously infested with rats					
(a) Major	8	—	—	—	8
(b) Minor	8	—	—	—	8
Number of Properties in- spected which were found to be seriously infested with mice					
(a) Major	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Minor	—	—	—	—	—
Number of infested prop- erties treated by Local Authority	8	—	—	—	8
Number of Notices served under Section four (Treatment) ...	—	—	—	1	1
(Structural Works) (i.e. proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority fol- lowing the issue of a notice under Section four	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of block control schemes carried out ...	—	—	—	—	—

SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

As required in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 20 of Article 25 of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Inspections under:	Number	Informal Notices Served	Statutory Notices Served	Notices Complied With
Building inspection and new buildings	174	—	—	—
Building Plans	107	5	—	5
Building byelaws	18	5	—	5
Council housing schemes	78	—	—	5
Council house management and maintenance	472	—	—	—
Council house tenancy investigations	98	—	—	—
Drainage	7	—	—	—
Disinfection	4	—	—	—
Disinfestations	3	—	—	—
Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958—Discretionary Grant	69	—	—	—
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959—Standard Grant	56	—	—	—
Factories Act	3	—	—	—
Food Premises	8	—	—	—
Flood Relief	44	—	—	—
Housing Inspections	58	4	—	4
Infectious Diseases	32	—	—	—
Ice-cream licences and samples	3	—	—	—
Lodging house	6	—	—	—
Meat inspection	81	—	—	—
Milk samples	42	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	94	—	—	—
Moveable dwellings	20	—	—	—
Nuisances	36	5	—	5
Planning duties	4	—	—	—
Petroleum inspections	10	—	—	—
Public offices	4	—	—	—
Refuse collection and disposal	77	—	—	—
Rodent control	11	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	10	—	—	—
Sewage Disposal	74	—	—	—
Unsound food	7	—	—	—
Valuation of property	2	—	—	—
Water samples	27	—	—	—
Water Supplies	305	—	—	—
Suspected food poisoning enquiries	2	—	—	—
TOTALS:	2,054	19	—	19

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

There are no large factories within the Rural Area and the number of persons employed in such factories as exist is quite small.

The list of factories within the rural area is as follows:—

				FACTORIES		Total	Other Premises
				Mechanical With	Power Without		
Almeley	...	...	...	3	—	3	1
Blakemere	...	...	...	2	—	2	—
Byford	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Canon Pyon	...	...	...	3	—	3	1
Dilwyn	...	...	...	1	—	1	1
Eardisland	...	...	...	1	—	1	1
Kinnersley	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Moccas	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Norton Canon	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Preston-on-Wye	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Weobley	...	...	...	6	—	6	1
				17	—	17	7

The "Other premises" described in the above list of factories include workshops, such as tradesmen's premises at which no-one except the owner or owners are employed. These premises are outside the definition of "Factories" as described in the Act.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958 and HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

Discretionary Improvement Grants

Thirteen schemes were approved by the Council during the year.

Since 1952 (when the Council first implemented the provisions of the various Acts) 88 proposals have been approved by the Council, one of which was later withdrawn by the applicant.

Fifteen applications were received during the year, two of which were cancelled by the applicants and one refused by the Council.

Eighteen schemes were completed and grants paid during the year.

Standard Improvement Grants

Sixteen applications were received, fourteen were approved and thirteen were paid during the year.

HOUSING AND BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

Throughout the greater part of the year Council House building has been at a standstill, with the exception of preparation for the erection of further houses on Council owned land at Burton Wood.

A building scheme for the construction of six bungalows and twenty six houses at Burton Wood was commenced during November but weather conditions prevented any appreciable progress by the end of the year.

A summary of Council Housing Schemes is as follows:—

		Com- pleted	Year	Under con- struction	Year	Houses in Preparatory Stages	Year
Almeley	...	8	1951	—	—	—	—
		2	1955	—	—	—	—
		11	1956	—	—	—	—
Bishopstone	...	2	1945	—	—	—	—
Canon Pyon	...	2	1945	—	—	20	1959
Dilwyn	...	12	1953	—	—	—	—
		4	1955	—	—	—	—
Eardisland	...	4	1954	—	—	—	—
		15	1955	—	—	—	—
Mansel Lacy	...	—	—	—	—	20	1959
Norton Canon	...	2	1944	—	—	—	—
Staunton-on-Wye		—	—	—	—	20	1959
Weobley		14	1949	—	—	—	—
		10	1955	—	—	—	—
		22	1956	—	—	—	—
		9	1957	—	—	—	—
(Conversions)	...	1	1948	—	—	—	—
(Conversions)	...	2	1952	—	—	—	—
(Conversions)	...	5	1952	—	—	—	—
(Conversions)	...	3	1958	—	—	—	—
Bungalows	...	—	—	6	1960	—	—
Houses	...	—	—	6	1960	20	1960
128				12		80	

PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Thirteen new private dwellings were completed during the year and the construction of a further ten was commenced.

Wherever possible the utmost assistance has been given by the staff to promote private building.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

The following table describes the position in regard to the number of houses so far surveyed.

The number of dwellings in the parishes of Yazor and Mansel Lacy will in the future be considerably reduced, when Foxley Housing Estate is finally closed.

Parish		No. of Houses	Houses Surveyed	Houses in each Category				
				1	2	3	4	5
Almeley	...	164	55	27	5	14	2	7
Birley	...	45	2	1	—	1	—	—
Bishopstone	...	51	4	3	—	—	—	1
Blakemere	...	30	2	—	—	1	—	1
Bridge Sollars	...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brinsop	...	34	7	—	1	4	—	2
Brobury	...	10	2	—	—	2	—	—
Byford	...	39	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canon Pyon	...	171	17	7	3	2	—	5
Dilwyn	...	250	19	6	4	7	—	2
Eardisland	...	160	7	3	—	3	—	1
Kings Pyon	...	95	26	9	1	5	—	11
Kinnersley	...	68	4	2	1	1	—	—
Letton	...	28	1	—	—	—	—	1
Mansel Gamage	...	20	6	5	—	—	—	1
Mansel Lacy	...	51	3	1	—	1	—	1
Moccas	...	38	1	—	—	1	—	—
Monnington-on-Wye	...	19	19	1	5	8	—	5
Norton Canon	...	69	5	4	—	—	—	1
Preston-on-Wye	...	51	3	—	1	—	—	2
Sarnesfield	...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Staunton-on-Wye		113	113	29	9	48	1	26
Stretford	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weobley	...	241	186	83	16	54	3	30
Wormesley	...	12	1	—	1	—	—	—
Yazor	...	133	2	—	—	2	—	—
TOTALS:		1,934	485	181	47	154	6	97

Housing Classification

- Category 1. Satisfactory in all respects.
- Category 2. Houses with minor defects.
- Category 3. Houses requiring repair, structural alterations or improvements.
- Category 4. Houses which are considered appropriate for reconditioning.
- Category 5. Houses which are considered to be unfit for habitation and beyond repairs at reasonable expense.

There are some 1,934 houses within the district, and of the 485 so far surveyed, approximately 20% have been classified as unfit for habitation and 31.7% as requiring repair, structural alterations or improvements (Category 3).

BUILDING PLANS

A total of 146 applications were dealt with during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1960, as follows:—

Plans and particulars relating to:—

Private Garages	...	...	...	...	12
Alterations and Additions	...	...	...	...	19
Drainage systems	...	...	...	...	38
Advertisement signs	...	...	...	...	2
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	22
Overhead Lines for M.E.B.	...	...	...	...	7
Petrol Filling Stations and Pumps	...	...	...	...	3
Accesses	...	...	...	...	6
Sites for Private Dwellings	...	...	...	...	16
Erection of Outbuildings	...	...	...	...	1
Farm Buildings	...	...	...	...	11
Refuse Disposal Site	...	...	...	...	1
Sites for Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	2
Broiler Houses	...	...	...	...	1
Conversion of Buildings	...	...	...	...	2
Council Housing Schemes	...	...	...	...	1
Erection of School	...	...	...	...	1
Change of use of Building	...	...	...	...	1
					146

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE

At the end of the year petrol storage capacity amounted to 22,850 gallons.

During the year two new licences were issued and one was cancelled.

There are six petrol filling stations and thirty-six private storage tanks, licenced for the storage of petroleum spirit.

No licences were issued during the year for the storage of carbide.

HOP PICKER'S DWELLINGS

The introduction of machinery for hop-picking has meant that local labour has largely satisfied the demands on smaller farms, thus very few dwellings were used during the season.

Number of farms having accommodation for pickers ... 1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The control of milk supplies is administered by the National Agricultural Advisory Service.

Eight inspections of food premises have been made in connection with Food Hygiene Regulations. Inspections in the course of other duties have been undertaken from time to time.

SCHOOL MILK

By arrangement with the County Council samples of milk are obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination and also for biological examination.

Number of Bacteriological samples taken ... 39

Six less samples of milk were submitted for examination this year than in 1959.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND BUTCHER'S SHOPS

There are two private slaughter houses in the district, both of which have been regularly used during the last twelve months.

During the year 98 beasts, 310 lambs, 131 pigs and 75 sheep were slaughtered at the two establishments, and after inspection the following meat was considered to be unfit for human consumption and was voluntarily surrendered:—

29 Bovine livers, 8 lab's livers, 2 pig's livers, 7 sheep's livers, 1 right hind quarter (bovine), and 1 sheep's right hand side thoracic and peritoneal cavities.

By comparison with 1959 slightly less animals were slaughtered in the area—.3% less.

100% inspection of all carcasses and organs has been maintained although, as in previous years, this has frequently meant the working of extra time, outside normal working hours.

THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

There are no ice cream manufacturing premises in the area, all ice cream sold is obtained in pre-packed wrappers from reputable manufacturers and stored in refrigerator containers prior to sale.

Six further premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. This now makes a total of 27 registered premises.

Number of ice cream samples submitted for examination ... Nil

FOOD PREMISES

The list of food premises within the rural area is as follows:—

Premises				Number
Butcher's Shops	...	...	...	3
Grocer's Shops	...	...	...	22
Inns and Hotels	...	...	...	21
Snack Bars	...	...	...	1
School Canteens		...	...	2
Cafes	...	...	...	1
				—
				50
				—

There are also a number of smaller shops which sell sundry items of food and sweets, chiefly in pre-packed wrappers.

Orphans Printing Press,
Church Street,
Leominster.